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TITLE: HIV Prevention for Drug Injectors in the Age of Hepatitis C.

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The emerging consciousness of the incidence of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection among drug injectors enables us to reexamine a comprehensive strategy for addressing the transmission of all blood borne infections, including HIV. Producing a significant reduction in HCV transmissions will almost eliminate the transmission of blood-borne HIV among injectors.

The components of this strategy include:

- Making sterile and hygienic injection practice the norm
- Creating the environment where sterile and hygienic injection practice can be the norm
- Developing drug user groups to best provide information about sterile and hygienic injection to drug user networks, and provide the groups with the equipment to put education into practice
- Vastly increasing the reservoir of sterile syringes available to drug injectors
- Making drug treatment on demand a priority
- Broadening the range and availability of drug maintenance therapies
- Determining ways to prevent the practice of drug injection, particularly among young people
- All of the above resources are made available in prisons and jails

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